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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/823,481	04/13/2004	Alan Orr	HEL565/03113	4956
24118	7590	09/21/2006	EXAMINER	
HEAD, JOHNSON & KACHIGIAN 228 W 17TH PLACE TULSA, OK 74119			LOPEZ, FRANK D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3745	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/823,481

Applicant(s)

ORR ET AL.

Examiner

F. Daniel Lopez

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 8-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 4/13/04 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/13/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

Drawings

Figures 1 and 2 (see page 6 line 2-4) should be designated by a legend such as -
-Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).
Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the
Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should
be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not
to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the
examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in
the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being
indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which
applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 line 7-8 "plurality of studs extending from a module block, each said
stud terminating in a threaded end spaced from said frame"" is confusing as to the
relationship between the frame and the module block. In claim 1 line 10 "said stud
extenders" has no antecedent basis, and is further confusing, since claim 3, which
depends from claim 1, claims "a stud extender" (line 2).

Claims not specifically mentioned are indefinite, since they depend from one of
the above claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102
that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a
foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year
prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by
Schaaf 3,438,334 (see discussion below).

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pangburn. Pangburn discloses a linear retention system comprising a liner clamp plate (40) having a plurality of stud apertures and a central opening receivable over a liner; a plurality of studs (connected to nuts 50) extending from a module block (12) and terminating in a threaded end spaced from a frame; a compression sleeve (58) having an inside diameter larger than the external diameter of the stud; and a tensioner (70, 73) to secure each stud to the liner clamp plate, and thereby secure the liner to the module block; wherein the frame has a cavity for the piston and piston rod

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claim 6, inasmuch as it is definite, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Schaaf 3,438,334 in view of Stachoiak. Schaaf 3,438,334 discloses a linear retention system comprising a liner clamp plate (4a) having a plurality of stud apertures and a central opening receivable over a liner; a plurality of studs (6) extending from a module block (2) and terminating in a threaded end spaced from a frame; a compression sleeve (10) having an inside diameter larger than the external diameter of the stud; and a tensioner (16) to secure each stud to the liner clamp plate, and thereby secure the liner to the module block; wherein the frame has a cavity for the piston and piston rod; but does not disclose that the cavity of the frame is closed on five sides.

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Stachoiak teaches, for a linear retention system comprising a frame (11) with a cavity for the piston and piston rod, and a module block (13); that the cavity of the frame is closed on five sides.

Since Schaaf 3,438,334 does not disclose details of the frame, whereas Stachoiak does, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to close the cavity of the frame of Schaaf 3,438,334 on five sides, as taught by Stachoiak, as a matter of engineering expediency.

Conclusion

Claims 8-12 are allowed.

Claims 2-5 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dan Lopez whose telephone number is 571-272-4821. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:15 AM -3:45 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Look, can be reached on 571-272-4820. The fax number for this group is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature should be directed to the Help Desk, whose telephone number is 1-800-PTO-9199.



F. Daniel Lopez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3745
September 15, 2006